The Nova Scotia
Green Sleeve
About the Green Sleeve

What is a Green Sleeve?
The Nova Scotia Green Sleeve is a central place to keep important documents to help communicate a patient’s health care plans, goals and care wishes to health care providers.

Who should have a Green Sleeve?
Anyone with a life-limiting illness should have a Green Sleeve.

What should be kept in the Green Sleeve?
Examples of documents that may be placed in the Green Sleeve include:

• Emergency Health Services’ (EHS) Special Patient Program Care Plan
• Personal Directive
• Nova Scotia Health Authority (NSHA) Expected Death at Home form
• Information about goals of care

Please ensure your patient brings their Green Sleeve home with them when they leave your office or the hospital. If it is left behind, please contact the patient to arrange to have it returned to them.
What do patients do with the Green Sleeve?

| At home, patients should keep their Green Sleeve somewhere easy to find, like on top of the fridge. If the patient has a palliative care binder, it can be kept in the front of the binder. The Green Sleeve should be shown to health care providers who provide care in the home, including paramedics if emergency help is needed. | Patients should bring their Green Sleeve with them to health care appointments and if they go to the Emergency Department. They should bring it home with any updates. Health care providers should review and discuss the documents in the Green Sleeve with patients and families prior to diagnostic tests or other interventions. |
To inquire about Green Sleeves for your patients, please contact palliativecare@nshealth.ca

More resources

Advance Care Planning and Goals of Care: https://library.nshealth.ca/SeriousIllness

EHS Special Patient Program
https://novascotia.ca/dhw/ehs/palliative-care.asp

Personal Directives
https://novascotia.ca/just/pda

Palliative Care
https://library.nshealth.ca/PalliativeCare
• Identification and assessment
• Care planning (including for an expected death at home)
• Community and provider resources

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